APRIL No.53

PLASTIC MAN

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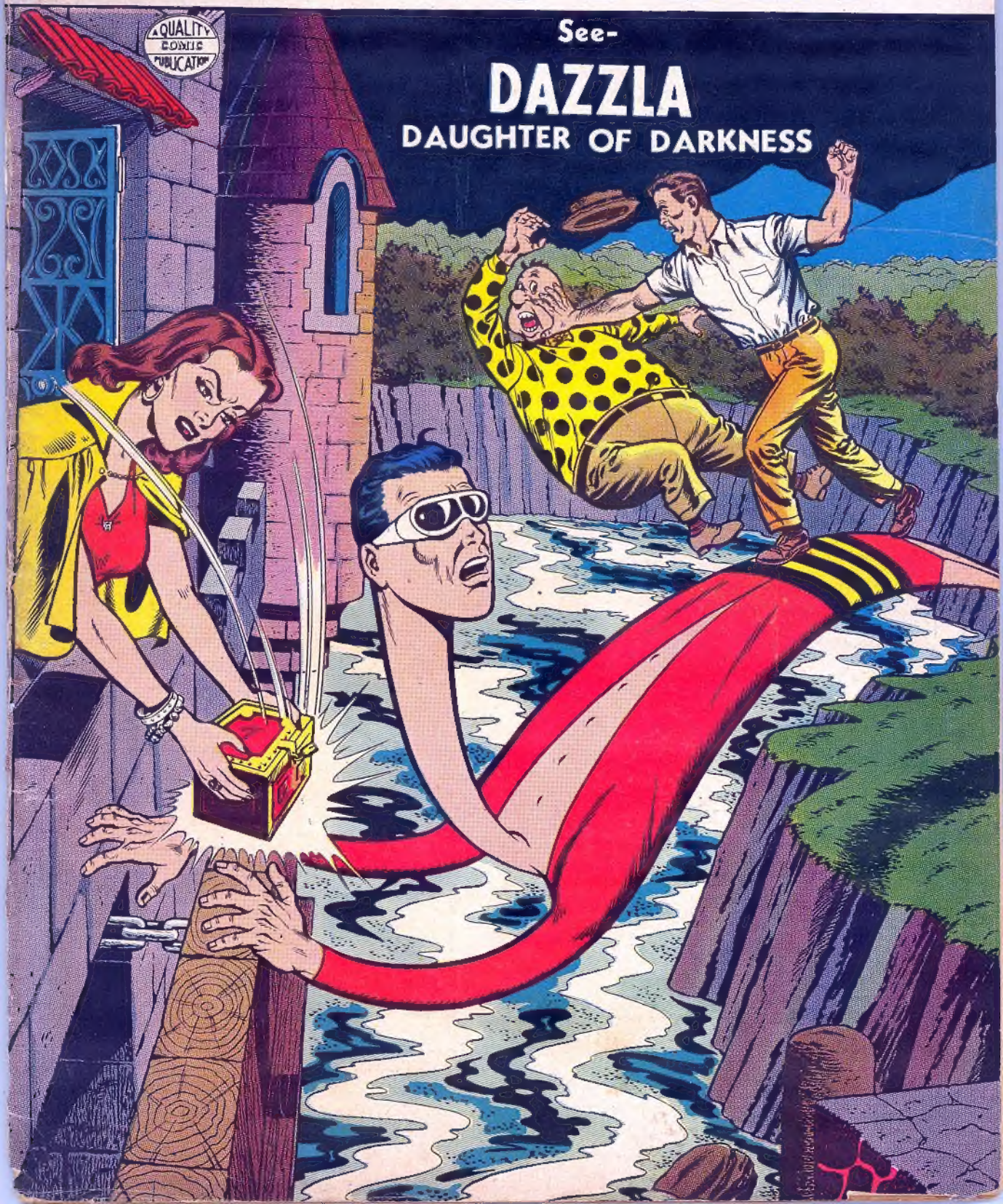

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$40.00 IS YOURS

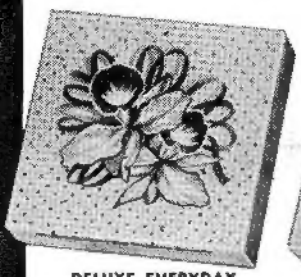
for selling only 50 boxes of our 300 greeting card line. And this can be done in a single day. Free samples. Other boxes on approval. Mail coupon below today.

It costs you nothing to try.

Last year some folks made $250—$500—$1,000 and more this very way. Church groups and organizations can do this, too. No experience necessary.

BEST WISHES ALL OCCASION ASSORTMENT
21 luxurious cards—including gold bronzing, dainty hand finishing, matching pastel envelopes

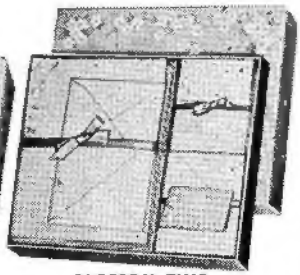
LOTS OF LAFFS HUMOROUS EVERYDAY ASSORTMENT
Novel animated cards—including original cut-outs, 3-dimensional pop-out features, bell attachments and 36" novelty card



DELUXE EVERYDAY GIFT WRAPPING ENSEMBLE
20 large multi-color 20" x 30" sheets in a fascinating variety of designs—plus matching seals and gift tags

TALL BEAUTIES ALL OCCASION ASSORTMENT
Unusual tall cards—all gold bronzed, beautifully embossed

VELVET HASTY NOTES
French folders with friendly messages on front in luminous rose and blue velvet



BLOSSOM TIME STATIONERY ENSEMBLE
Embossed floral design, with gold bronzing, dainty scalloped borders—ribbon-tied

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping
REPLACEMENT OR REFUND OF MONEY IF NOT AS ADVERTISED THEREIN

FREE SAMPLES
PERSONALIZED STATIONERY

COLONIAL STUDIOS, INC., Dept. 31-A, White Plains, New York

Mail This Free Trial Coupon Today

COLONIAL STUDIOS, INC.
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Please rush free samples, other boxes on approval for FREE TRIAL and full details of your easy money-making plan.

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If writing for organization, give name_____

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PLASTIC MAN

and the ATTEMPTED RETURN of TRICKY TOLEDO

GOSH, PLAS! I DON'T SEE HOW ANYONE CAN GET ACROSS THE BORDER WITH YOU GUARDING IT!

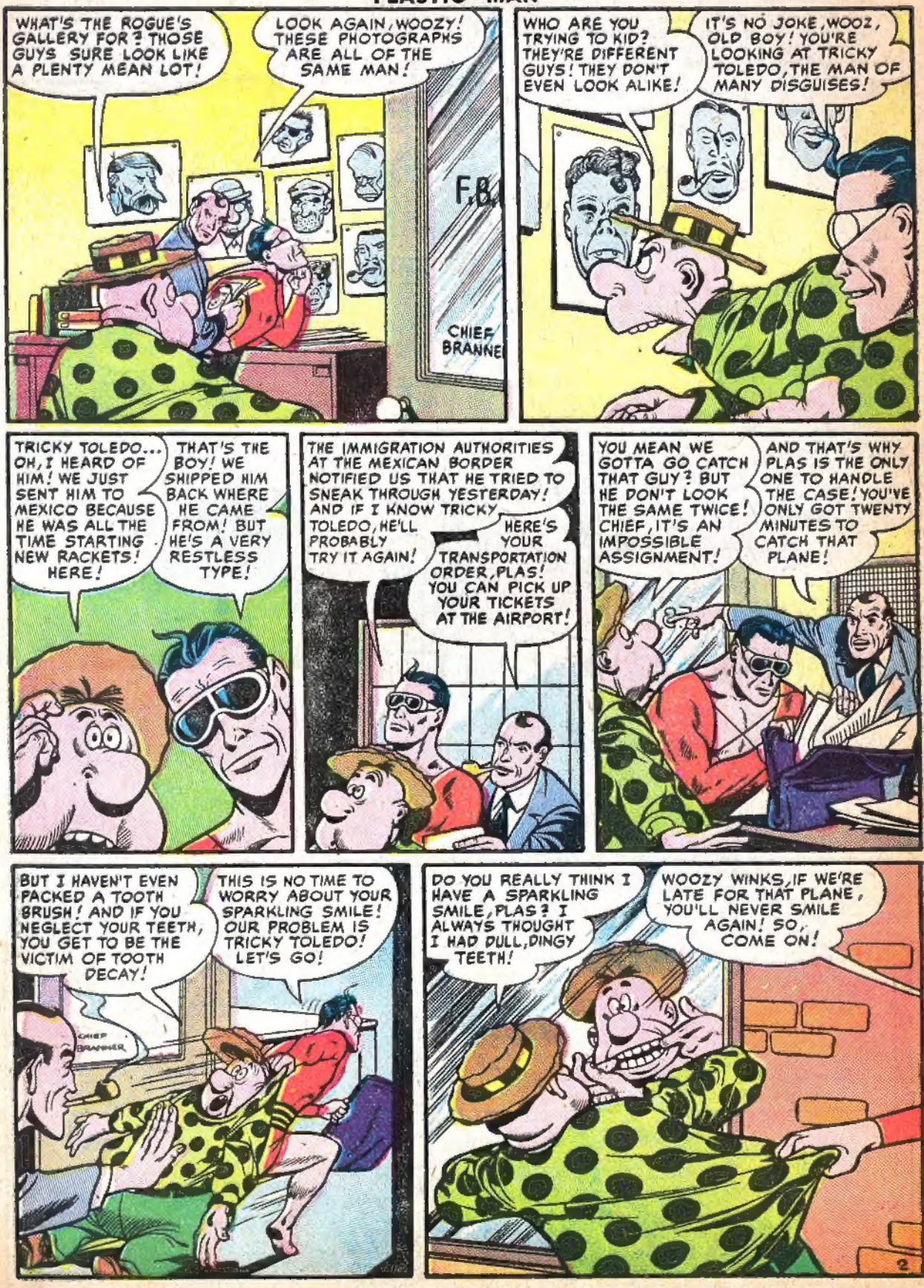
DON'T BE SO SURE, WOOZY! TRICKY TOLEDO IS A PRETTY SLIPPERY CUSTOMER!

MEXICO

USA

PLASTIC MAN IS SO RIGHT BECAUSE HERE I AM SLIPPING RIGHT THROUGH!

THE F.B.I. DEPORTS TRICKY TOLEDO, BIG-TIME RACKETEER, SOUTH OF THE BORDER TO MEXICO! BUT TRICKY WANTS TO SNEAK BACK INTO THE UNITED STATES BY HOOK OR BY CROOK! AND IT'S UP TO PLASTIC MAN TO HOOK THIS CROOK---FOR GOOD!


WHAT'S THE ROGUE'S GALLERY FOR? THOSE GUYS SURE LOOK LIKE A PLENTY MEAN LOT!
LOOK AGAIN, WOOZY! THESE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE ALL OF THE SAME MAN!
F.B.
CHIEF BRANNER
WHO ARE YOU TRYING TO KID? THEY'RE DIFFERENT GUYS! THEY DON'T EVEN LOOK ALIKE!
IT'S NO JOKE, WOOZ, OLD BOY! YOU'RE LOOKING AT TRICKY TOLEDO, THE MAN OF MANY DISGUISES!
TRICKY TOLEDO... OH, I HEARD OF HIM! WE JUST SENT HIM TO MEXICO BECAUSE HE WAS ALL THE TIME STARTING NEW RACKETS! HERE!
THAT'S THE BOY! WE SHIPPED HIM BACK WHERE HE CAME FROM! BUT HE'S A VERY RESTLESS TYPE!
THE IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES AT THE MEXICAN BORDER NOTIFIED US THAT HE TRIED TO SNEAK THROUGH YESTERDAY! AND IF I KNOW TRICKY TOLEDO, HE'LL PROBABLY TRY IT AGAIN!
HERE'S YOUR TRANSPORTATION ORDER, PLAS! YOU CAN PICK UP YOUR TICKETS AT THE AIRPORT!
YOU MEAN WE GOTTA GO CATCH THAT GUY? BUT HE DON'T LOOK THE SAME TWICE! CHIEF, IT'S AN IMPOSSIBLE ASSIGNMENT!
AND THAT'S WHY PLAS IS THE ONLY ONE TO HANDLE THE CASE! YOU'VE ONLY GOT TWENTY MINUTES TO CATCH THAT PLANE!
BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN PACKED A TOOTH BRUSH! AND IF YOU NEGLECT YOUR TEETH, YOU GET TO BE THE VICTIM OF TOOTH DECAY!
THIS IS NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR SPARKLING SMILE! OUR PROBLEM IS TRICKY TOLEDO! LET'S GO!
CHIEF BRANNER
DO YOU REALLY THINK I HAVE A SPARKLING SMILE, PLAS? I ALWAYS THOUGHT I HAD DULL, DINGY TEETH!
WOOZY WINKS, IF WE'RE LATE FOR THAT PLANE, YOU'LL NEVER SMILE AGAIN! SO, COME ON!
2

HURRY! OUR PLANE'S GETTING READY TO TAKE OFF!

I'M DOING THE BEST =PUFF-PUFF= I CAN, PLAS! I GUESS I'M NOT IN VERY GOOD SHAPE!

YOU COULD REMEDY THAT BY LIMITING YOURSELF TO ONE DESSERT AFTER EACH MEAL!

NO THANKS! THAT WOULD BE A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH!

PLEASE FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS!

JUST ASK ME ANYTHING AND I'D DO IT FOR YOU GLADLY!

YOU KNOW, THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT AIR TRAVEL THAT GIVES ME A LIFT!

WELL, COME IN FOR A LANDING! WE'VE GOT TO BUCKLE DOWN TO WORK!

WE'LL HAVE PLENTY TO DO WHEN WE GET THERE! CAN'T WE JUST SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE...ER... SCENERY NOW?

NO, WE'VE GOT TO STUDY THESE PHOTOS OF TRICKY TOLEDO AND MEMORIZE THEM!

NOW HERE HE IS WITH A CREW HAIRCUT AND A SMALL MUSTACHE! IN THIS ONE, HE'S WEARING A BLONDE WIG AND GLASSES...

BOY, THAT TRICKY TOLEDO HAS MORE THAN AN ARM UP HIS SLEEVE! HOW ARE WE EVER GONNA CATCH HIM?

TONE IT DOWN, WOOZY! WE DON'T WANT THE WHOLE WORLD TO KNOW WE'RE ON THE TRAIL OF TRICKY!

NOW I RECOGNIZE HIM! IT IS PLASTIC MAN! WE MUST WARN TRICKY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

PERHAPS WE COULD DO SOMETHING TO PREVENT THIS HOMBRE PLASTICO FROM REACHING HIS DESTINATION!
THAT WOULD BE FINE! BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY OTHERS ON THIS PLANE AND IT WOULD NOT BE SAFE FOR US TO TRY!
WE'LL STUDY THESE AGAIN LATER, WOOZ!
NOW IF WE COULD GET OUR HANDS ON THAT PORTFOLIO... IT MUST CONTAIN MUCH DAMAGING EVIDENCE AGAINST TRICKY TOLEDO!
HEY, PLAS! LOOK AT THAT!
WHAT IS IT, WOOZY?
LOOK AT THE SHAPE OF THAT CLOUD! DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU THINK OF A LOT OF WHIPPED CREAM WITH MAYBE A BANANA-SPLIT UNDERNEATH?
AHA! THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF!
WOOZY, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT MAN DOES NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE?
AND IT'S A GOOD THING, TOO! WHO WANTS TO LIVE BY BREAD ALONE WHEN THERE'S STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE AND LEMON MERINGUE PIE?
WOOZY! YOU'RE INCORRIGIBLE! HEY! WHERE'S THE PORTFOLIO?
DON'T LOOK AT ME! I'M NOT THAT HUNGRY!
IT'S GOT TO BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
I DON'T SEE IT! I'M AFRAID WE'LL HAVE TO GO OVER THIS PLANE WITH A FINE-TOOTH COMB!

WE'VE CHECKED EVERY-ONE'S BAGGAGE BUT IT'S NOT THERE, SIR! ARE YOU SURE YOU BROUGHT IT ON BOARD WITH YOU?

MISS, YOU COULD MAKE A MAN FORGET MANY THINGS, BUT I KNOW WE HAD THAT PORTFOLIO WITH US!

IF YOU HIDE SOMETHING IN AN OBVIOUS PLACE, AMIGO, NO ONE THINKS TO LOOK FOR IT THERE!

SI! SOON WE WILL LAND! THEN YOU WALK OFF THE PLANE WITH THE MAGAZINES UNDER YOUR ARM! THEN WE CAN GIVE THE PORTFOLIO TO TRICKY TOLEDO!

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT FOR PLASTIC MAN TO LOCATE TRICKY! BUT WITHOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHS AND THE OTHER INFORMATION, PLASTIC MAN WILL BE STUMBLING AROUND IN THE DARK!

WE'RE GETTING READY TO LAND, SIR! PERHAPS YOUR PORTFOLIO WILL TURN UP WHEN THE BAGGAGE GOES THROUGH CUSTOMS!

I HOPE SO! BUT ON THE CHANCE IT DOESN'T, WOULD YOU SEND THIS TELEGRAM THROUGH?

I'M WIRING THE CHIEF TO SEND US DUPLICATE INFORMATION! BUT IT'S CERTAINLY GOING TO SLOW US UP!

OH, GOLLY, PLAS! AND WHILE WE'RE WAITING, TRICKY TOLEDO MAY BE SLIPPING ACROSS THE BORDER!

I AM SO SORRY, SENOR! WE HAVE CHECKED THOROUGHLY BUT WE DID NOT FIND YOUR MISSING PORTFOLIO!

THANKS FOR YOUR TROUBLE! IF YOU GET ANY INFORMATION ON IT, YOU CAN REACH ME AT THE JUMPING BEAN HOTEL!

MEXICO CUSTOMS OFFICE

SALUDOS, AMIGOS! HAVE YOU MADE ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ME TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES?

TRICKY TOLEDO! FOR A MOMENT I DID NOT EVEN KNOW IT WAS YOU!

BUT THAT IS PLASTIC MAN! WHAT IS HE DOING HERE IN MEXICO?

DRIVER, TAKE US TO THE JUMPING BEAN HOTEL!

REPUSLICA DE MEXICO

OFICIO DEL COS

HE HAS COME TO PREVENT YOUR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES! BUT WE HAVE ALREADY MADE HIS TASK MORE DIFFICULT! TAKE THIS! IT CONTAINS ALL INFORMATION THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS ON YOU!

GOOD WORK, AMIGOS! WHEN I RETURN TO MY PROFITABLE VENTURES IN THE UNITED STATES, YOU WILL BE RICHLY REWARDED!

BUT NOW WE MUST FOLLOW PLASTIC MAN TO HIS HOTEL! ALREADY I HAVE A PLAN! PLASTIC MAN HIMSELF WILL HELP ME CROSS THE BORDER!

A SHORT TIME LATER...

WELL, WE'RE ALL CHECKED IN AT THE HOTEL! WE MIGHT AS WELL DO SOME SIGHT-SEEING WHILE WE'RE WAITING TO HEAR FROM THE CHIEF!

SURE THING, PLAS! COMING UP IN THE TAXI, I SPOTTED SOME SHOPS DOWN THE STREET WHERE THEY SELL CURIOS! LET'S GO THERE!

PLASTIC MAN IS VERY CLEVER BUT I SUSPECT HIS STOUT FRIEND IS NOT! IT IS THE STOUT ONE WHO WILL ASSURE THE SUCCESS OF MY PLAN!

I'D LIKE TO GET A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE STEWARDESS ON OUR PLANE! IT MIGHT BE THE START OF A BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP!

NOW!

CURIOS

OH, PLASTIC MAN! ABOUT YOUR PORTFOLIO...

YOU WERE ON THE PLANE WITH US! DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT IT?

CURIOS

PARDON, BUT I HEARD YOU SAY YOU WANTED SOMETHING FOR A SENORITA! COME INSIDE AND I WILL HELP YOU CHOOSE THE GIFT TO WIN HER HEART!

YOU WILL? THAT'S WHAT I CALL A FRIENDLY GESTURE!

NO, I HAVE NO INFORMATION, SENOR! I JUST WANTED TO KNOW IF YOU HAD FOUND YOUR PORTFOLIO!

NOT YET! BUT I'M SURPRISED THAT YOU'RE SO CONCERNED ABOUT MY LOSS!

OH, I WISH I COULD BE OF SOME HELP, SENOR!

I DON'T TRUST HIS SONG AND DANCE ROUTINE! BUT WHAT'S HE DOING IT FOR AND WHAT HAPPENED TO WOOZY!

WELL, ADIOS, SENOR! I HOPE YOU HAVE A PLEASANT STAY IN OUR COUNTRY!

BUT I KNOW YOU WILL NOT!

WOOZY! OH, WOOZY!

THE LAST I SAW OF HIM, HE WAS LOOKING INTO THE WINDOW OF THIS PLACE! HE MUST HAVE GONE INSIDE!

GOOD DAY, SENOR! YOU WISH TO BUY A SOUVENIR OF OLD MEXICO?

NO, I WISH TO FIND AN OLD FRIEND! I'M CERTAIN HE CAME IN HERE A MINUTE AGO!

YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN, SENOR! NO ONE HAS ENTERED MY SHOP IN THE LAST HALF HOUR!

THAT'S STRANGE! I'D BETTER LOOK IN THE OTHER SHOPS ON THIS STREET! HE CAN'T BE VERY FAR AWAY!

AND AFTER A FRUITLESS SEARCH...

HE SEEMS TO HAVE VANISHED! THAT MAN WHO STOPPED ME IN THE STREET...I GET IT NOW! WHILE HE DIVERTED MY ATTENTION, SOMEONE SPIRITED WOOZY AWAY! BUT WHO? I'M GOING BACK TO THAT FIRST SHOP AND CHECK AGAIN!

HOT TAMALES

OF ALL THE LUCK! IN THE MEANTIME I'D BETTER NOTIFY THE LOCAL POLICE OF WOOZY'S DISAPPEARANCE!

CUR

CLOSED for SIESTA! will RE-OPEN IN TWO HOURS!

MEANWHILE, IN THE BACK ROOM OF THE CLOSED SHOP...

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, FELLOWS? IS THIS THE WAY TO TREAT A CASH CUSTOMER?

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, FELLOWS? IS THIS THE WAY TO TREAT A CASH CUSTOMER?

WHY ARE YOU SAYING EXACTLY WHAT I SAY? ARE YOU A PARROT OR SOMETHING?

YOUR IMITATION OF HIS VOICE IS EXCELLENT, TRICKY! I BELIEVE IT WOULD DECEIVE EVEN PLASTIC MAN WHO KNOWS HIM WELL!

GULP! HE CALLED YOU TRICKY! YOU'RE TRICKY TOLEDO! OH, WHY DID I EVER LEAVE HOME?

NOW I WILL TAKE YOUR CLOTHES! THEY WILL MAKE MY DISGUISE COMPLETE!

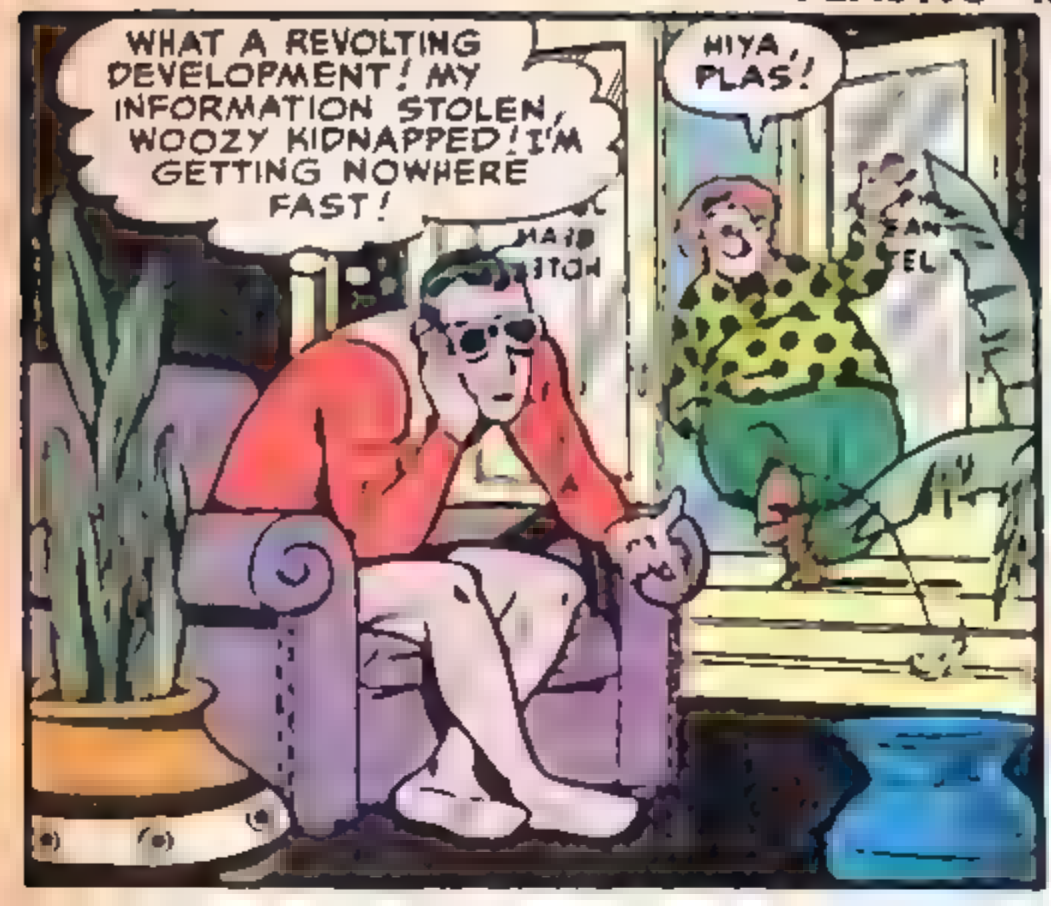
SOB! IT'S A GOOD THING MY FRIENDS CAN'T SEE ME NOW! OH, THE HUMILIATION OF IT ALL!

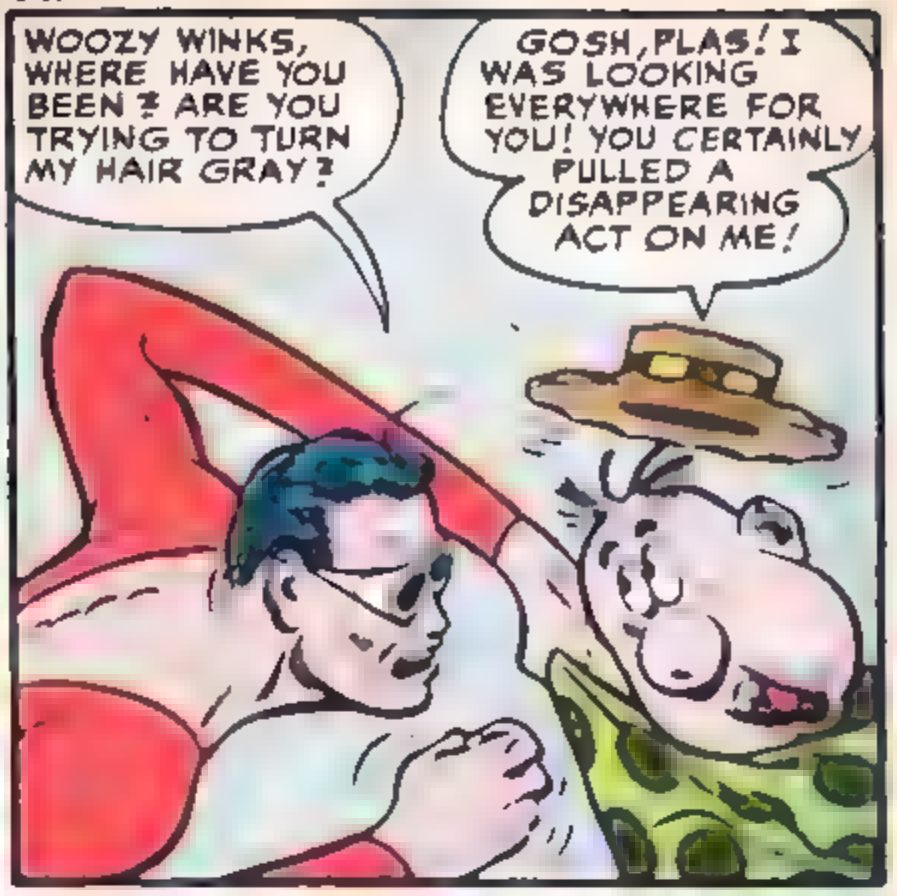
I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO DISGUISE MYSELF AS A MORE INTELLIGENT AND HANDSOME MAN, BUT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE IN THIS CASE...

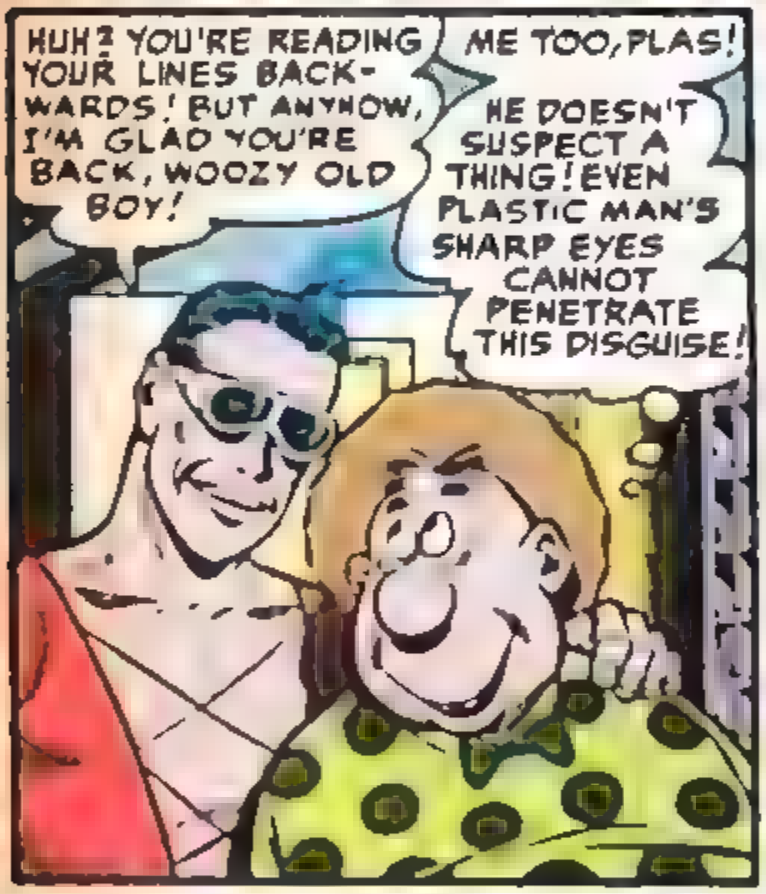
...SINCE I MUST LOOK LIKE WOOZY WINKS!

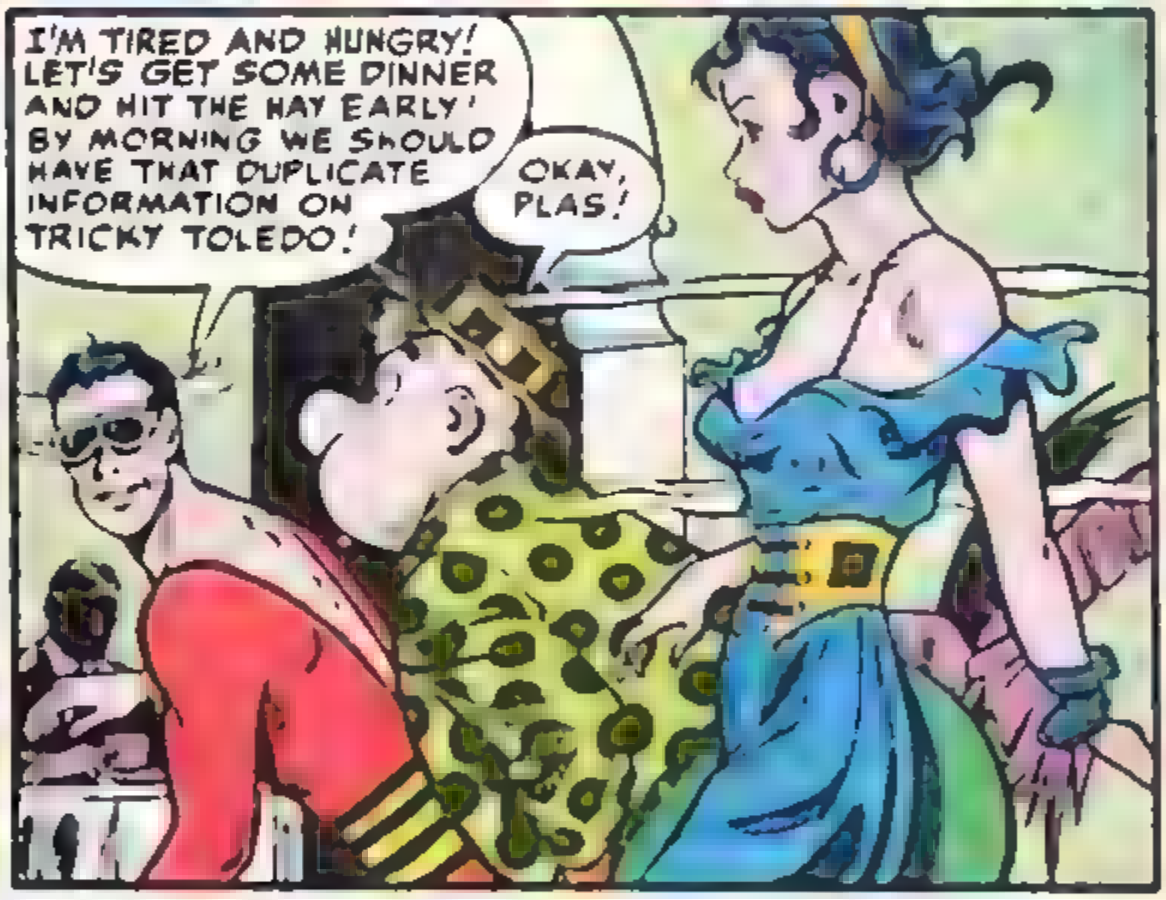
MAKE-UP

PLASTIC MAN

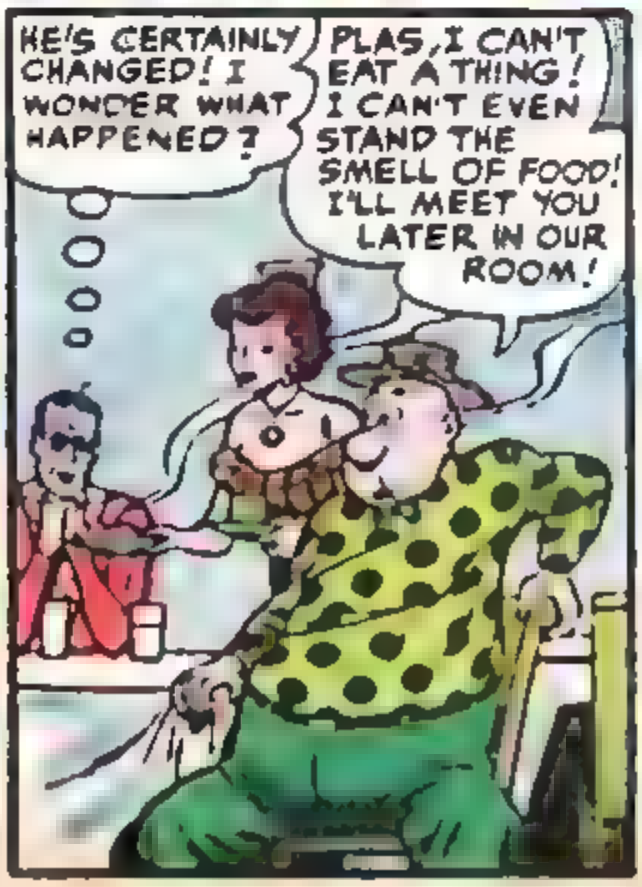

WHAT A REVOLTING DEVELOPMENT! MY INFORMATION STOLEN, WOOZY KIDNAPPED! I'M GETTING NOWHERE FAST!
HIYA, PLAS!


WOOZY WINKS, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? ARE YOU TRYING TO TURN MY HAIR GRAY?
GOSH, PLAS! I WAS LOOKING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU! YOU CERTAINLY PULLED A DISAPPEARING ACT ON ME!


HUH? YOU'RE READING YOUR LINES BACK-WARDS! BUT ANYHOW, I'M GLAD YOU'RE BACK, WOOZY OLD BOY!
ME TOO, PLAS!
HE DOESN'T SUSPECT A THING! EVEN PLASTIC MAN'S SHARP EYES CANNOT PENETRATE THIS DISGUISE!


I'M TIRED AND HUNGRY! LET'S GET SOME DINNER AND HIT THE HAY EARLY! BY MORNING WE SHOULD HAVE THAT DUPLICATE INFORMATION ON TRICKY TOLEDO!
OKAY, PLAS!

WOOZY MUST HAVE SUN-STROKE! HE ISN'T PAYING ANY ATTENTION TO THE PRETTY GIRLS AROUND HERE! HMMM!
I'LL JUST HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE, PLAS! I AN T AWFUL HUNGRY!


HE'S CERTAINLY CHANGED! I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED?
PLAS, I CAN'T EAT A THING! I CAN'T EVEN STAND THE SMELL OF FOOD! I'LL MEET YOU LATER IN OUR ROOM!

EVERYTHING GOES SMOOTHLY! AND TONIGHT WHEN PLASTIC MAN IS ASLEEP...
AT MIDNIGHT, AMIGO! WE'LL BE THERE AT MIDNIGHT!

PLASTIC MAN

IT MUST BE ALMOST MIDNIGHT! ;YAWN: I CAN'T STAY AWAKE ANOTHER MINUTE!

ME, EITHER! I'LL SEE YOU IN DREAMLAND, PLAS! G'NIGHT!

NOW I MUST CALL IN THE OTHERS! THERE IS MUCH TO DO BEFORE MORNING!

ENTER QUIETLY! SUCCESS DEPENDS ON OUR WORKING QUICKLY WHILE HE'S ASLEEP!

WE HAVE REHEARSED EVERY MOVE! IT WILL BE A MATTER OF MINUTES!

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PLASTER OF PARIS

PLASTER OF PARIS

I DON'T THINK HE'LL AWAKE, BUT IN CASE HE DOES, THIS WILL QUIET HIM!

THE PLASTER OF PARIS IS READY, TRICKY! WE'RE READY TO BEGIN!

PLASTER OF PARIS

SOON AS WE HAVE A PLASTER MAN, NO?

SI! POOR PLASTIC MAN! WHEN WE FINISH WITH THIS CAST HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MOVE EVEN ONE FINGER!

SHALL WE COVER HIS FACE, TOO?

NO, HE WOULD SUFFOCATE! WE DO NOT WANT TO KILL HIM YET! FIRST WE MUST CROSS THE BORDER ---THEN THERE WILL BE TIME!

NOW WE TAKE HIM TO THE BORDER! HE HAS BEEN SEVERELY INJURED AND HE MUST RETURN HOME AT ONCE FOR MEDICAL CARE! AND OF COURSE, HE MUST GO BACK TO THE UNITED STATES WITH HIS TRUSTED COMPANION, WOOZY WINKS!

BUT THE GAG ON HIS MOUTH MAY CAUSE SUSPICION!

10

PLASTIC MAN

AH, YES, THE GAG! WE TAKE IT OFF... SO! WHEN PLASTIC MAN BEGINS TO TALK, WE SAY IT IS ONLY BABBLING! HE IS IN A STATE OF SHOCK AND DOES NOT KNOW WHAT HE SAYS!

YOU HAVE PLANNED IT ALL WITH PERFECTION, TRICKY! AND SOON YOU WILL BE SAFELY ACROSS THE BORDER!

FORTUNATELY EVERYONE IN THE HOTEL WAS ASLEEP! YOU THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING, TRICKY! EVEN THIS BORROWED AMBULANCE GIVES THE SITUATION JUST THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF REALISM!

SAVE YOUR COMPLIMENTS FOR LATER! I WANT TO GET TO THE BORDER BEFORE DAYLIGHT AND BEFORE PLASTIC MAN WAKES UP!

REAR EXIT

AMBULAN

WE HAVE TRAVELLED MANY MILES AND STILL PLASTIC MAN SLEEPS! OF COURSE, HE DOES NOT KNOW THAT IT IS TO BE HIS LAST AND FINAL SLEEP!

NOW I MUST SPEAK TO THE IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES! I WILL SHOW THEM THE CREDENTIALS OF PLASTIC MAN AND WOOZY WINKS!

AMBULANCE

I AM MR. WOOZY WINKS OF THE UNITED STATES! MY FRIEND, PLASTIC MAN, HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED IN AN AUTO-MOBILE ACCIDENT! I MUST RUSH HIM HOME!

BEFORE I CAN LET YOU THROUGH SENOR, I MUST SEE THE INJURED MAN!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHO PUT ME IN THIS STRAIT JACKET?

AS YOU CAN SEE, MY FRIEND IS FEVERISH! YOU CAN UNDERSTAND MY HASTE TO RETURN HOME WITH HIM!

MY BEST WISHES FOR HIS RECOVERY! NOW ABOUT YOUR PAPERS...

PLASTIC MAN WILL HAVE A FAR MORE SERIOUS ACCIDENT BEFORE I'M FINISHED WITH HIM!

YOUR PAPERS ARE IN ORDER, SENOR WINKS! YOU AND YOUR PARTY MAY PASS THROUGH!

PLASTIC MAN

THE PLASTER IS BEGINNING TO CRACK! APPARENTLY WE DIDN'T DO SUCH A GOOD JOB!

THAT ISN'T THE REASON...

IT'S JUST THAT I'M GETTING TIRED OF BEING COOPED UP!

I SHOULD NOT LIKE PLASTIC MAN'S WRATH TURNED AGAINST ME! LET US GO, QUICKLY!

LOOK, NO HANDS!

THERE MUST BE NO WITNESS TO THIS UNEXPECTED TURN OF EVENTS! WITH THIS GUARD OUT OF THE WAY I CAN MAKE A DASH FOR THE BORDER!

CRACK!

ALL RIGHT, TRICKY! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR SHENANIGANS! YOU'RE NOT GOING ANY-WHERE!

POLICE

TAKE THIS, YOU SNEAK IN WOOZY'S CLOTHING! THOUGHT I WAS ASLEEP, DID YOU? WELL, I WASN'T! NOW THEY CAN LOCK YOU UP FOR ATTEMPTED KIDNAPPING! AND YOU COULDN'T HAVE KID-NAPPED ME WITHOUT MY COOPERATION!

OH, PLAS! TELL THIS COP I AIN'T CRAZY! TELL HIM I'M THE REAL WOOZY WINKS! THEY SAID AT THE HOTEL YOU WERE HEADED HERE! TELL HIM!

HE'S THE REAL WOOZY WINKS, ALL RIGHT! TRICKY TOLEDO GAVE A PRETTY GOOD IMITATION OF HIM, BUT WHEN HE SCORNED WOMEN AND FOOD, I GOT SUSPICIOUS!

GOSH, PLAS! I THOUGHT I'D NEVER FIND YOU! TRICKY LOCKED ME UP BUT I ESCAPED! THEN THE POLICE PICKED ME UP BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT I WAS A LUNATIC RUNNING AROUND IN A BLANKET!

THIS CASE PROVED THAT THERE'S ONLY ONE WOOZY WINKS IN THE WORLD! NOBODY CAN EVER BE JUST LIKE HIM, AND IT'S A GOOD THING TOO!

PLAS, IS THAT AN INSULT OR A COMPLIMENT?

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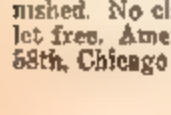

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PLASTIC MAN

The Perfect DOUBLE CROSS

SILK WARR earned his nickname because he was smooth—with smoothness he had planned the robbery of the Amalgamated Wholesale Jewelry Company, with smoothness he had directed the fierce raid of his three crime associates that netted a whole satchel full of priceless gems. And with smoothness he had managed to slip away from his partners, taking that satchel with him. Jumping into a car, he had taken the seashore road out of there. He intended to live a smooth and luxurious life on the profits, with no sharing thereof.

But apparently he had not been smooth enough. Tonight, as he left his hotel, satchel in hand, three figures closed in from three shadowy points on the dim street. His erstwhile partners had come to settle accounts with him

Silk was brave enough when he had to be. He backed up to a wall, setting himself for defense. They rushed. He struck out with the heavy satchel, staggering one of them. But another dealt him a heavy blow on the head with a blackjack, and he fell to one knee.

"Finish the rat," he heard a harsh voice saying. "Finish him and grab that gripful of gaudies. Leave him so he'll never set anybody after us."

They were seizing him, trying to pull the satchel out of his frantic grip. An arm raised to deal him another blow. Then—

Someone else was rushing into the battle. Another of the gang? No, this dark figure seized the biggest of Silk's assailants, clamped on an arm-lock and whirled the fellow bodily through the air into a crashing fall. The one who was about to slug Silk turned to face this stranger. The stranger ducked the blow of the blackjack, and countered with a short, quick jab that sent the blackjack-wielder floundering in the gutter. The third ran off, yelling.

"Get up," said the stranger quickly. He looked tall and powerfully built. "They'll be after you again, with friends."

Silk was too grateful and relieved to be surprised. He got to his feet, still dragging the precious satchel and followed his rescuer down an alley.

Already the noise of pursuit rose behind them. As the stranger had predicted, Silk's three ex-partners had help within call. There seemed to be five or six men following them.

"Mister," panted Silk, "I don't know how to thank you—"

"Don't thank me, save your breath," was the stern reply. "Head out along that pier."

They ran along a board-paved expanse, toward the sound of the beating ocean. Back from the alley flashed streaks of flame, and the night was ripped by the sound of gunfire. A bullet sang past Silk's head. The stranger had drawn a gun and was firing in reply.

"There they are!" bawled one of the enemy. "I see 'em on that pier Toss a pineapple!"

Something whizzed in the air and struck the planks at Silk's very feet. Lightning-swift, the stranger stooped, caught up the bomb and hurled it back the way it had come. His other arm seized Silk and hurled him flat. There was a deafening explosion.

"They're charging," whispered the stranger. "Climb down the pile here."

Silk obeyed, but he was hampered by the satchel Slipping, he splashed in. He could not swim—he sank. But then he was being dragged upward to the surface The stranger had dived after him.

As their heads rose into the air again, they heard a commotion—shots, a struggle, an official-sounding voice thundering orders. Then quiet, and then departing feet.

"The cops," gurgled Silk. "Those shots brought 'em My ex-pals are being arrested. Now we can get out"

"Let me help you." Competently the stranger hoisted him back on the pier. Silk set down the satchel.

"Now I can say it," said Silk. "I thank you from the bottom of my heart for rescuing me. They'd have killed me."

"I know," said the other. "And orders from police headquarters were to bring you in alive."

"You're a cop yourself!" cried Silk.

"Sure. Why else did I risk my life to save you?" An iron grip fastened on Silk's wrist. "Pick up that satchel. Bring it along. You've got about ten years of regrets to serve in the penitentiary"

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, U. S. Code, Section 233) Of PLASTIC MAN, published Bi-monthly at Sparta, Illinois, for October 1, 1954.

1 The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Everett M. Arnold, 578 Summer Street, Stamford, Conn , Editor, Alfred Grenet, 347 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y , Managing editor, None; Business manager, Richard E. Arnold, 347 Madison Avenue, New York, N Y

2 The owner is (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given) Comic Magazines, 578 Summer Street, Stamford, Conn , Everett M Arnold 578 Summer Street, Stamford, Conn., Claire C Arnold, 578 Summer Street, Stamford, Conn

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner

(Signed) EVERETT M. ARNOLD, Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of September, 1954. (Signed) LOUIS J. KURIANSKY, Notary Public

(My commission expires April 1, 1959)

PLASTIC MAN

SMART ALEX

MOM, YOU KNOW HOW DAD'S ALWAYS SAYING HOW CLUMSY AND IMPRACTICAL I AM...

YES!

...AND THAT I HAVE NO MECHANICAL ABILITY AT ALL?

UH-HUH!

WELL, I'M SOON GONNA SHOW HIM HOW HANDY I CAN BE AROUND THE HOUSE!

THAT'S FINE!

REMEMBER HOW YOU THOUGHT YOU HEARD SOMEONE PROWLING IN OUR CELLAR THE OTHER NIGHT?

YES!

WELL, I'VE FIXED *THAT* LITTLE WORRY!

BECAUSE I'VE JUST INSTALLED A *BURGLAR ALARM TRAP* DOWN THERE THAT'LL SOON PROVE WHAT A MASTER CRAFTSMAN I AM!

?!!

BRRNNG!

YOUR FATHER!

BRING

WOOZY

HEY WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

I'M TRYING TO KEEP MY FEET DRY! YOU THINK I WANT TO CATCH A COLD OR SOMETHING?

NOW ALL I NEED IS A BIT OF ONION AND MY MASTERPIECE WILL BE COMPLETE AND READY TO EAT!

NOT AN ONION IN SIGHT! GUESS I'LL HAVE TO RUN DOWN TO THE CORNER AND GET ONE!

YOU'RE THE SUBJECT OF MY BALLAD! YOU'RE AS PRETTY AS A SALAD!

THIS IS THE PLACE! LETS GO!

HE LOCKED HIMSELF IN THAT HOUSE! WE'LL HAVE TO SMOKE HIM OUT WITH TEAR GAS!

IT'S TOO BAD WE HAVE TO USE THE STUFF WITH ALL THESE PEOPLE AROUND!

HE'S DANGEROUS WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! LETS GET STARTED! WE'LL TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE!

HERE GOES!

THIS ONION LOOKS LIKE A THING OF BEAUTY! IT'S FOR ME!

I'LL TAKE THIS!

SHALL I WRAP IT UP OR WILL YOU EAT IT HERE?

HE BUYS ONE MEASLY ONION! HOW CAN A MAN MAKE A LIVING? BOO-HOO! SOB

GOSH! DON'T CRY! IF IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL ANY BETTER... I'LL BUY TWO ONIONS!

THIS IS AWFUL! SOB YOU GOT ME DOING IT TOO! BOO-HOO! SOB

SOB

SOB

SOB

I CAN'T STAY HERE ANOTHER MINUTE! =SOB= IT'S TOO SAD! SNIFF!

OF ALL THE DIRTY =SOB= TRICKS! USING TEAR GAS ON A FELLOW... BOOHOO! JUST BECAUSE HE BROKE THE LAW... SNIFF!

FRUITS

IT'S TOO TERRIBLE! BOO-HOO! I'LL NEVER SMILE AGAIN!

HE CAN'T WALK OUT ON US THIS WAY! THE PLAY OPENS IN AN HOUR!

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? HE'S THE ONLY GUY IN THE BUSINESS WHO CAN CRY REAL TEARS!

I'M AFRAID WE WON'T BE ABLE TO OPEN THE PLAY! THE BIGGEST SCENE IN IT IS WHERE HE CRIES HIS EYES OUT!

HEY, LOOK AT THAT GUY THERE! HE'S NOT MY IDEA OF A TRAGIC TYPE, BUT HE'S CRYING LIKE CRAZY!

MAYBE HE CAN DO IT! LET'S TALK TO HIM!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, MY GOOD MAN?

I JUST HAVE TO CRY... BOO-HOO! I CAN'T HELP IT! =SOB-SOB=

3

MY EYES ARE SO FULL OF TEARS I'M SOBBING I CAN'T EVEN SEE WHERE I'M GOING!

YOU JUST COME WITH US! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

SNIFF-SNIFF! OH, THANK YOU, SIR!

AIN'T YOU GOING TO TELL HIM WHERE YOU'RE TAKING HIM?

HE'S IN NO CONDITION! WE'LL JUST SEND HIM OUT ON THE STAGE AND LET HIM CRY HIS HEAD OFF! THE AUDIENCE WILL LOVE IT!

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! IF WE TELL HIM HE'S GOING TO BE IN A PLAY, HE MIGHT GET SCARED AND RUN AWAY!

NOW WE'LL GO RIGHT IN HERE AND FIND A COMFORTABLE PLACE FOR YOU!

I HOPE HIS WATER SUPPLY DOESN'T RUN OUT BEFORE THE CURTAIN GOES UP!

ROYAL THEATRE

STAGE ENTRANCE

NOW YOU SIT DOWN RIGHT HERE AND EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT!

OH GOLLY! I HOPE SO... BOO-HOO! IT'S ALL SO SAD!

TAKE YOUR PLACES, EVERYBODY! THE CURTAIN IS GOING UP IN TWO MINUTES!

WHO'S THE WEEPING WILLOW? I NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE!

HE'S TAKING SCOTT MASON'S PLACE! YOU JUST GO THROUGH YOUR PACES AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING!

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, FATHER, BUT TRY TO CHEER UP!

HUH?

OH BOY! I FEEL BETTER ALREADY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING TONIGHT?

TURN IT ON AGAIN! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE CRYING YOUR HEAD OFF!

SHE'S CUTE BUT CRAZY! I DON'T FEEL LIKE CRYING! I'M HUNGRY!

I CAN'T LET THE AUDIENCE SEE HIM SMILING! HE'LL SPOIL THE WHOLE MOOD OF THE PAY!

GOSH, I'M STARVED! I'LL JUST PEEL THIS LITTLE OLD ONION AND GET SOME NOURISHMENT!

≥SOB-SOB≤ BOO-HOO! SNIFF!

OH, FATHER! YOU STILL HAVE ME! I'LL MAKE YOU HAPPY!

≥SOB≤ DO YOU REALLY MEAN IT? SNIFF!

IT'S WORKING OUT BEAUTIFULLY! THE AUDIENCE IS EATING IT UP!

YOU SAVED OUR PLAY! YOU GAVE A SOLID PERFORMANCE!

HUH? YOU'RE A LITTLE MIXED UP, MISTER! YOU DON'T MEAN SOLID! YOU MEAN SALAD! AND THAT'S RIGHT WHERE I'M HEADING! SO LONG!

PLASTIC MAN

READY THE EXPLOSIVES! WE MUST MOVE QUICKLY BEFORE ANYONE SUSPECTS OUR PLAN!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S UP TO, WOOZY--- BUT WE'VE GOT TO GET OVER THERE AND FIND OUT!

WHO IS THE BEAUTEOUS DAZZLA? FROM WHAT STRANGE AND SINISTER PLACE HAS SHE COME? AND WHAT DARK DEED IS SHE PLANNING IN THE SECRECY OF HER ISOLATED MANSION? PLASTIC MAN, CHAMPION OF THE F.B.I. AND WOOZY WINKS, HIS HELPLESS HELPER, RISK THEIR LIVES TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS WHEN THEY FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF... DAZZLA, Daughter of Darkness!

THE CHIEF SHOULD BE ALONG ANY MINUTE NOW, WOOZY!

GOSH, EVERY TIME I SEE A BOAT---I GET AN ITCH TO TRAVEL!

LINES

THERE HE IS--- OH, CHIEF!

AND EVERY TIME I SEE SOMETHING LIKE THAT---

PLAS, WE'VE GOT TO CHECK ON PROJECT TRIPLE X RIGHT AWAY!

BUT I WAS THERE JUST YESTERDAY, CHIEF, AND EVERYTHING WAS GOING ALONG SMOOTHLY!

WHEN I WAS IN EUROPE I GOT WIND OF A PLOT TO DESTROY THAT PROJECT! BUT I COULDN'T FIND OUT WHO'S BEHIND IT OR HOW THEY PLAN TO DO IT!

I'M A REPORTER FROM THE DAILY TRIPE! COULD YOU GIVE ME THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE AND YOUR PHONE NUMBER?

PLEASE GO AWAY! I WISH NO PUBLICITY!

CUSTOMS INSPECTION

WELL, WE COULD DISCUSS THIS IN PRIVATE!

GO AWAY AT ONCE OR I SHALL CALL THE POLICE!

BUT I WAS ONLY---

MY COMPACT--- KEEP AWAY FROM IT!

OKAY, I CAN TAKE A HINT! BESIDES, I CAN SEE YOU'RE NOT MY TYPE ANYHOW!

CUSTOMS INSPECTION

SNAP

COME ALONG, WOOZY! WE'RE GOING OUT TO PROJECT TRIPLE X!

THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE, PLAS! LET'S BE ON OUR WAY!

THEY'VE CERTAINLY CHOSEN A GOOD SITE FOR THE PROJECT! THERE'S NOT A SOUL FOR MILES AROUND!

THE NEAREST BUILDING IS AN OLD MANSION AT THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN! IT'S BEEN DESERTED FOR YEARS!

IF WE HAVE TIME, CHIEF, I'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT LATER!

WELL, HERE WE ARE!

PLAS, THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY HAND!

IT LOOKS LIKE A BURN OF SOME SORT!

I CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW I GOT IT!

YOU'VE PROBABLY BEEN PLAYING WITH FIRE, WOOZY! BUT DON'T WORRY, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT WHEN WE GET HOME!

WE'VE TAKEN EVERY SECURITY MEASURE TO SAFEGUARD OUR PROJECT, CHIEF BRANNER! SO FAR THERE'S BEEN NO TROUBLE!

IF MY INFORMATION IS CORRECT, THERE WILL BE NO TROUBLE!

HELLO, DR. CRANSTON! HOW'S EVERY LITTLE THING?

YOUR HAND, MR. WINKS---WHAT HAPPENED TO IT? I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF IT AT ALL!

I DON'T KNOW! I MUSTA BURNED IT SOMEWHERE!

THAT'S NO ORDINARY BURN! IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE IT WAS CAUSED BY SOME RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE!

ARE YOU SURE?

IT'S A RECENT BURN AND NOT A VERY SERIOUS ONE! WE CAN TAKE CARE OF IT BEFORE IT DOES ANY REAL DAMAGE!

IS IT GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, DOC? IS IT GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT?

WE'LL GET IT UNDER CONTROL! BUT I WISH YOU COULD REMEMBER HOW IT HAPPENED!

PLAS, I WANT YOU TO CHECK THE AREA OUTSIDE THIS LAB! IF ANYTHING LOOKS SUSPICIOUS TO YOU, LET ME KNOW!

SURE THING, CHIEF!

HEY, WAIT, PLAS! THE DOC SAYS I'M OKAY NOW! I WANT TO COME, TOO!

ALL RIGHT, WOOZY! I'LL PROBABLY REGRET IT, BUT COME ALONG!

THAT GIRL! WHAT'S SHE DOING AROUND HERE?

THIS IS A PUBLIC ROAD, WOOZY! ANYBODY CAN DRIVE THROUGH HERE!

BUT SHE JUST GOT OFF THE BOAT! SHE HASN'T EVEN HAD TIME TO UNPACK!

THEN MAYBE SHE'S NOT AN INNOCENT SIGHT-SEER AFTER ALL! WE'LL FOLLOW HER CAR!

WE CAN'T USE OUR CAR! THE SOUND OF THE MOTOR MIGHT MAKE THEM SUSPICIOUS! WE'LL HAVE TO HOOF IT!

I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH YOU, PLAS!

UP YOU GO!

And AFTER A LONG AND ARDUOUS CLIMB...

HEY, LOOK! THEY'RE STOPPING IN FRONT OF THAT FUNNY-LOOKING BUILDING!

THAT MUST BE THE OLD MANSION THE CHIEF WAS TALKING ABOUT!

THE CHIEF MENTIONED THAT THE PLACE WAS DESERTED, BUT THAT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE THE CASE!

MAYBE SHE THINKS IT'S A HOTEL OR SOMETHING!

SOMEONE JUST OPENED THE DOOR TO LET THAT CAR THROUGH! WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHO'S USING THAT BUILDING AND WHAT THEY'RE USING IT FOR!

HMM! THEY WANT TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE NO VISITORS!

GOLLY! THAT'S A REAL OLD-FASHIONED DRAWBRIDGE!

OH-OH! THEY LOOK LIKE THEY HAVEN'T HAD A SQUARE MEAL IN MONTHS!

MURDEROUS-LOOK!"G MONSTERS, AREN'T THEY? BUT I THINK WE CAN GET ACROSS IN SPITE OF THEM!

THIS OUGHT TO DO IT!

GOSH, PLAS! YOU'RE WONDERFUL!

THAT'S THE IDEA! TAKE IT SLOW AND EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT!

:GULP: IT BETTER BE! I DON'T WANT TO PROVIDE ANY NOURISHMENT FOR THOSE ALLIGATORS!

MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE OLD MANSION...

HAVE YOU BROUGHT IT? EVERYTHING ELSE IS IN READINESS FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF PROJECT TRIPLE X!

YES, I HAVE IT WITH ME! I HAD NO DIFFICULTY AT ALL IN GETTING IT THROUGH CUSTOMS!

GIVE IT TO ME THEN! THIS IS NO TIME TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR APPEARANCE, DAZZLA!

THIS IS NO ORDINARY COMPACT, HERKO! AND IT CONTAINS NO ORDINARY FACE POWDER!

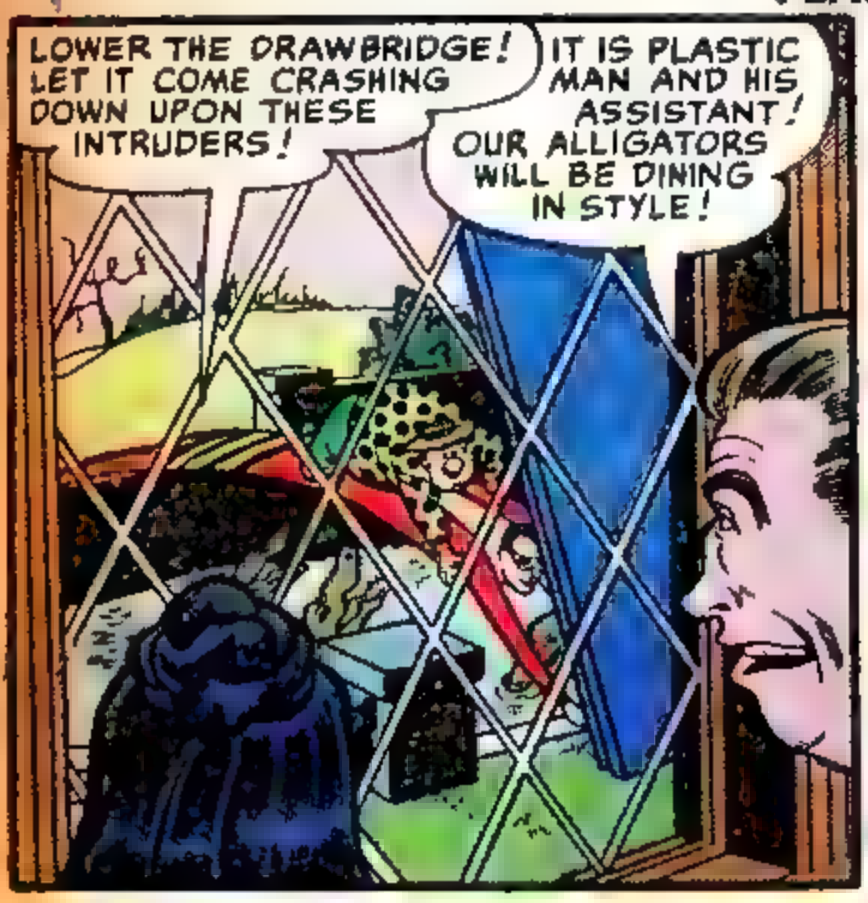
YOU ARE AS CLEVER AS YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL, DAZZLA! I SEE THE COMPACT IS MADE OF LEAD AND THE POWDER THEN IS THE RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE!

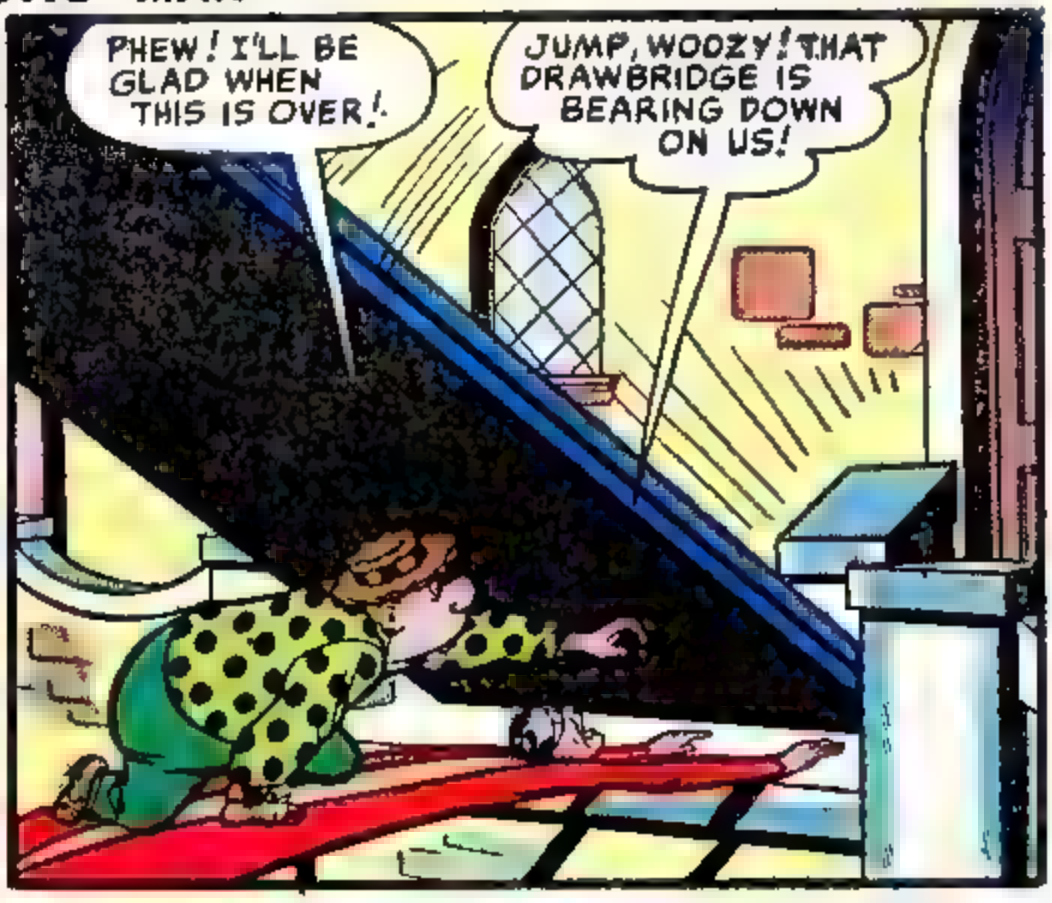
EXACTLY! NOW TELL ME ABOUT THE PREPARATIONS YOU HAVE MADE!

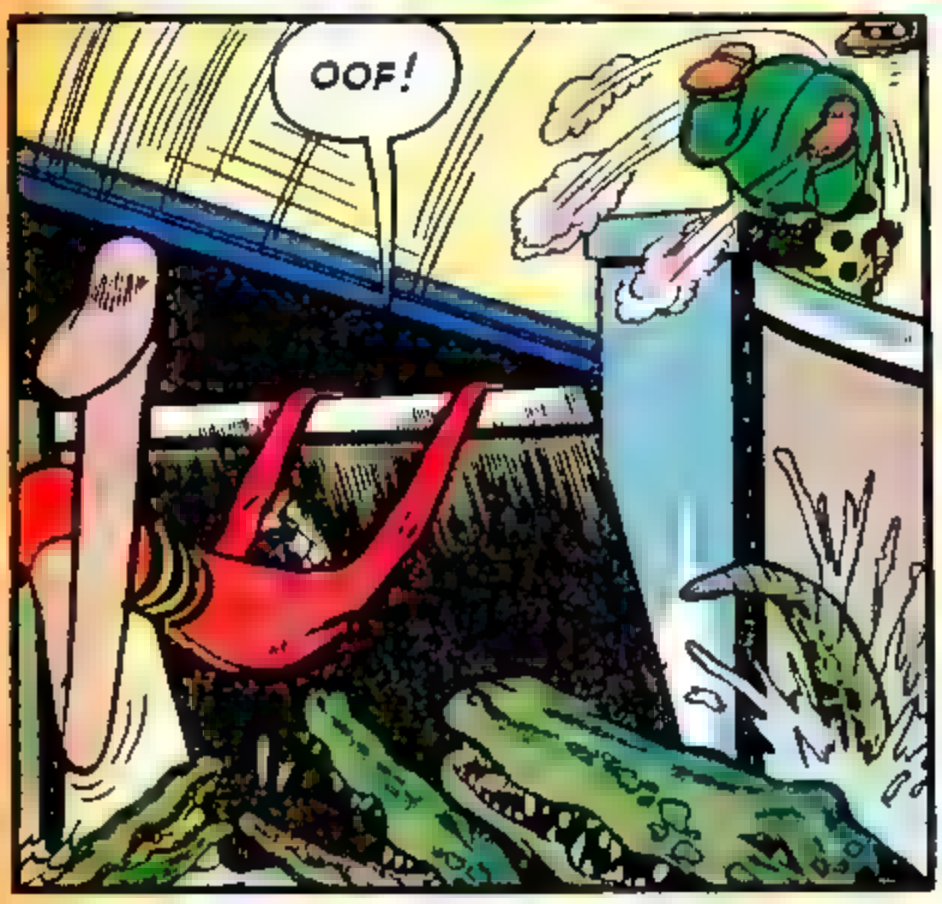
AS YOU CAN SEE, HERE IS THE SECRET STAIRWAY INSIDE THE MOUNTAIN!

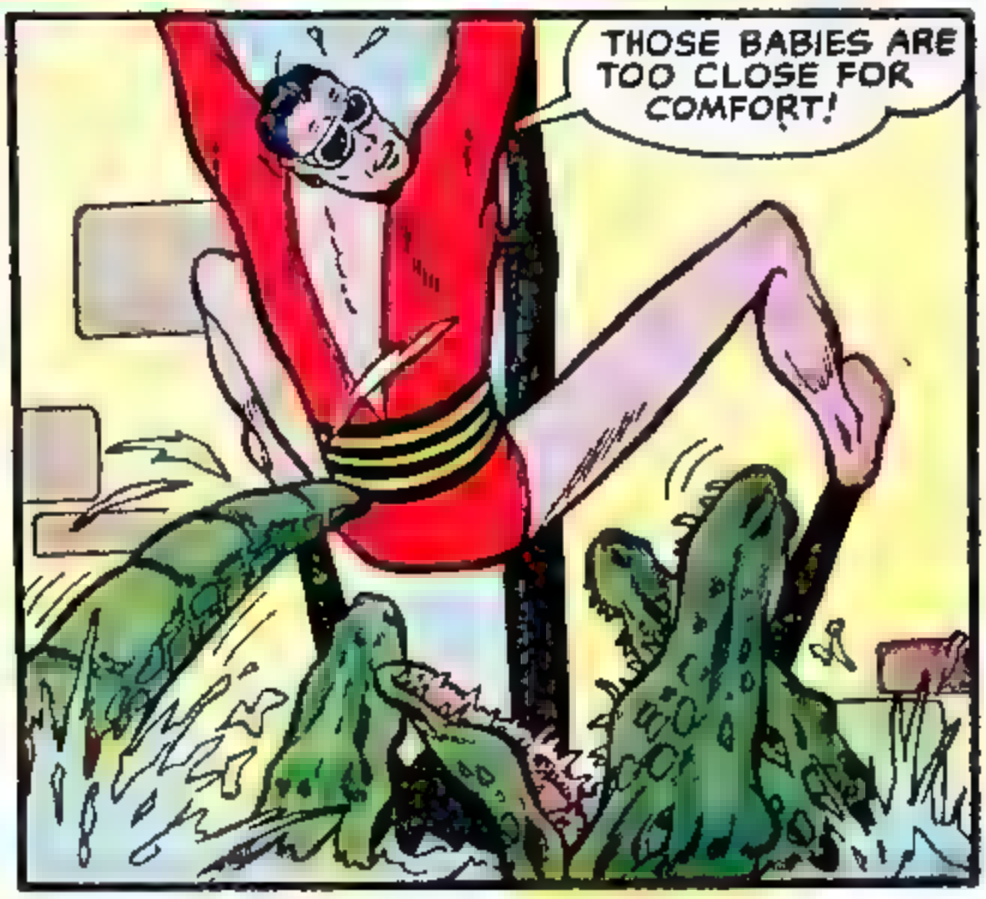
IT LEADS VERY CLOSE TO THE LABORATORY BUILDING OF PROJECT TRIPLE X!

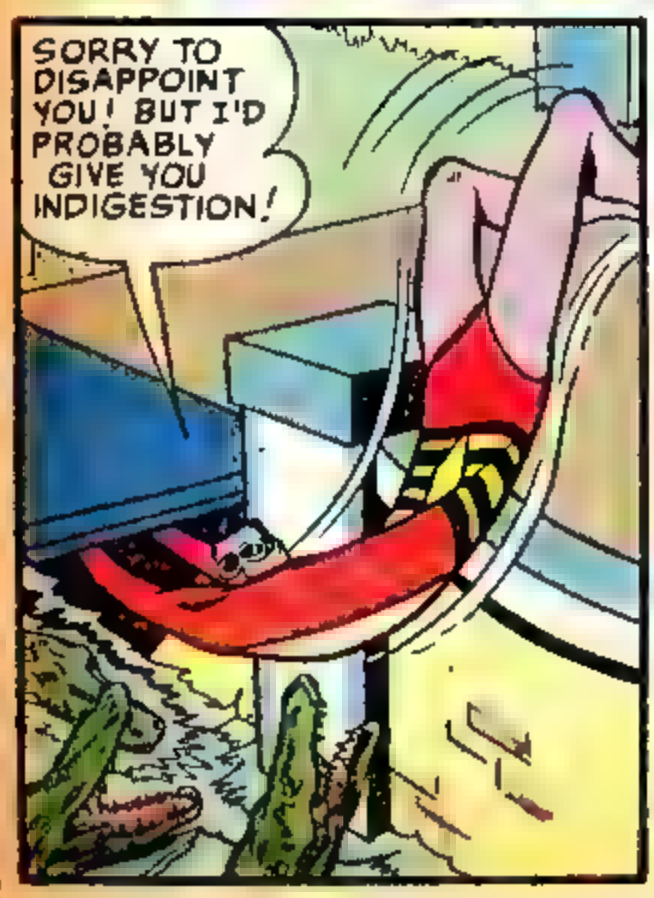
LOOK THERE! SOMEONE IS TRYING TO CROSS OUR MOAT! WE MUST STOP THEM AT ONCE!


LOWER THE DRAWBRIDGE! LET IT COME CRASHING DOWN UPON THESE INTRUDERS!
IT IS PLASTIC MAN AND HIS ASSISTANT! OUR ALLIGATORS WILL BE DINING IN STYLE!


PHEW! I'LL BE GLAD WHEN THIS IS OVER!
JUMP, WOOZY! THAT DRAWBRIDGE IS BEARING DOWN ON US!


OOF!


THOSE BABIES ARE TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!


SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU! BUT I'D PROBABLY GIVE YOU INDIGESTION!

THEY THINK THEY'VE SEEN THE LAST OF ME, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING! NOW TO FIND WOOZY AND PLAN A SNEAK ATTACK!

HE'S GONE! THEY MUST HAVE TAKEN HIM PRISONER! I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!

MEANWHILE ooo

THIS FAT ONE IS THE MAN WHO CALLED HIMSELF A NEWS-PAPERMAN! NOW HE CAN WRITE THE STORY OF HIS OWN DEATH!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO ME?

WE SHALL LOCK YOU UP AND LEAVE YOU HERE! WHEN WE DESTROY THE ENTIRE MOUNTAIN, YOU WILL BE DESTROYED WITH IT!

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT AGAINST THIS MOUNTAIN? WHAT DID IT EVER DO TO YOU?

WHEN THIS MOUNTAIN IS REDUCED TO SMITHEREENS, SO WILL BE YOUR PROJECT TRIPLE X!

NOW I GET IT.... YOU'RE SPIES! JUST WAIT TILL PLASTIC MAN CATCHES UP WITH YOU!

YOU CANNOT THREATEN US WITH PLASTIC MAN! BY NOW THE HUNGRY ALLIGATORS HAVE FINISHED WITH HIM!

OH, NO! NOT PLAS! IT CAN'T BE TRUE!

LET US GO NOW TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SECRET STAIRCASE AND SCATTER THIS RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE!

I AM READY, DAZZLA!

SEE HOW THE ENTRANCE IS SO CLEVERLY CONCEALED!

INDEED! NOW LET US GO DOWN QUICKLY!

AFTER WE HAVE SCATTERED THIS SUBSTANCE, WE MUST LEAVE THE MOUNTAIN! WE WILL HAVE JUST ENOUGH TIME TO ESCAPE BEFORE THE EXPLOSION OCCURS!

THE SECRET STAIR-CASE ENDS HERE!

GOOD! AND TO THINK THAT JUST A SHORT DISTANCE FROM US IS THE HEAVILY-GUARDED TRIPLE X PROJECT!

HA! NOT ALL THE ARMIES IN THE WORLD COULD PROTECT THAT PROJECT NOW!

THIS HARMLESS LOOKING POWDER WILL SEE TO THAT!

SO! SOON IT WILL EAT INTO THE STONE OF THE STAIRCASE, THEN THROUGH THE MOUNTAIN AND FINALLY IT WILL REACH AND DESTROY THE SECRET GOVERNMENT PROJECT!

I WILL KEEP THIS COMPACT AS A SOUVENIR OF OUR GREAT VICTORY TODAY!

HURRY! THE MOUNTAIN WILL BE GONE IN A MATTER OF MINUTES!

WHA---? DOES THIS THING HAVE A LIFE OF ITS OWN?

WHAT IS THE MATTER? WHY DO YOU DALLY?

SLOW DOWN, YOU TWO! YOU'RE NOT GOING ANY-WHERE!

PLASTIC MAN! HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME TO GIVE AWAY TRADE SECRETS, WOULD YOU?

NOW WE CANNOT ESCAPE IN TIME! BUT IF WE CAN KEEP PLASTIC MAN HERE, HE WILL BE DESTROYED ALONG WITH US!

I MUST GET OUT OF HERE! I DO NOT WISH TO DIE!

YOU'LL GET OUT OF HERE IN GOOD TIME!

HERKO, WE WERE INSTRUCTED TO COMPLETE OUR MISSION AT ANY COST, EVEN IF IT MEANT OUR LIVES! OURS WILL BE A GLORIOUS DEATH!

YOUR CONVERSATION IS GETTING MORBID! NO ONE IS GOING TO DIE!

YOU ARE WRONG! I CAN TELL YOU NOW BECAUSE IT IS TOO LATE FOR ESCAPE! I SCATTERED A SUBSTANCE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS THAT WILL---

THAT SUBSTANCE WON'T DO ANY-THING! IT'S ORDINARY TABLE SALT!

WHEN I FOUND OUT WHAT YOU BIRDS WERE UP TO, I PULLED A FAST SWITCH!

THE FAT ONE ESCAPED AND BROUGHT HELP!

I HELPED HIM ESCAPE! WOOZY GETS VERY UNHAPPY WHEN HE'S COOPED UP! BUT YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHAT I MEAN BECAUSE YOU TWO ARE GOING TO PRISON ON CHARGES OF SABOTAGE!

PLAS, YOU'VE DONE A SPLENDID JOB! PROJECT TRIPLE X IS SAVED!

I KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING THAT DAZZLA WAS UP TO NO GOOD!

HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT, WOOZY?

IT WAS INSTINCT, PLAS! I COULD TELL FROM THE MINUTE I LOOKED AT HER THAT SHE MEANT TROUBLE AND I WAS SO RIGHT!

No Telling What Hidden Treasures YOU'LL Find

We *guarantee* that the 145 stamps you receive are all Spanish or Spanish colony stamps — many taken from collections of old church missions. They are completely *unsorted* — so there's no telling what treasure you may find in your package. We inspected a few at random — and found, among others, the gorgeous Saint Fernando Airmail, a stamp commemorating the invention of the autogiro by Juan D'La Cierva, the famous Spanish windmill stamp reminiscent of Don Quixote. And you may find even *more* valuable stamps in your package.

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Best of all—none of these stamps have been sorted out. So there's no telling *what* valuable stamps you may find! You'll have stamps to keep, stamps to trade, stamps to sell.

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ALSO FREE

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Littleton, New Hampshire

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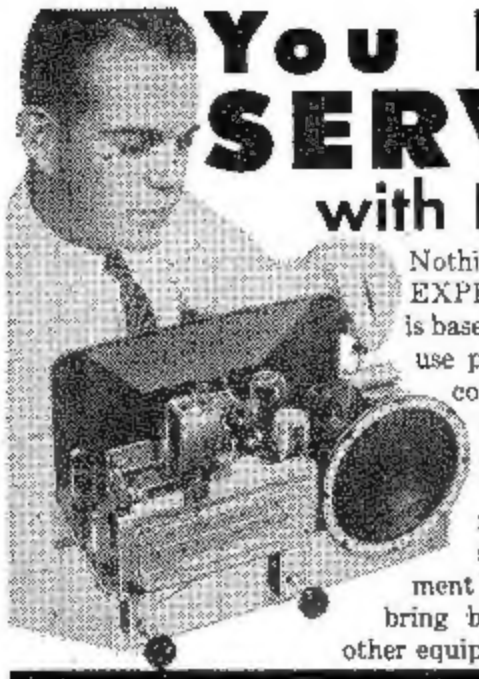

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